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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARLINGTON

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH



1956



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DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1956 — 57

Chairman

COUNCILLOR W. A. LEE, O.B.E.

Vice-Chairman

COUNCILLOR H. J. DENT, J.P.

Councillors

S. Allport	N. Milburn
Mrs. M. Burlinson	*A. G. Newell, J.P.
G. H. Callender	(Deceased 18/5/56)
A. Cessford	*T. N. Naisby
(Elected 1956)	N. N. Nicholson
T. A. Cooper	Miss A. Palmer
K. Coates	T. A. H. Redpath
J. K. Dods	W. Robinson
J. R. Dixon	E. J. Stokes
*H. Hutchinson	T. H. Summerson, J.P.
H. S. Johnson	H. N. Shafto
Mrs. J. L. Kell	W. S. Scott
(Elected 1956)	J. E. Stobbs
G. H. Myers	K. V. Shaw
R. J. Mounsey, J.P.	*D. Vickers
H. H. Miller	M. E. Walker

*Members of No. 11 Area Health Sub-Committee.

Clerk to the Council

J. PATTINSON

ANNUAL REPORT, 1956

DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my duty and privilege to present to you the 75th annual report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year 1956. The contents of the report will be summarized in this introductory letter.

Vital statistics afford a means by which comparisons may be made between the health of a district in different years and the health of the rest of the country. On this basis the vital statistics of your district for 1956 give no cause for disquiet. Briefly, the general death rate is lower than the previous year, the infantile mortality rate increased very slightly, and the number of live births was greater than in 1955. In more detail, the Registrar General's figures show an increase in population of 1,400 over the previous year and give comparability factors of 1.36 for deaths and .79 for births. Live births increased by 41 giving a rate higher than that for the country, but due to the lowering of the comparability factor a rate considerably lower than that for last year. Infant deaths increased from 10 to 11. A scrutiny of the table on page 8 of the report will show that of the 11 deaths, 9 occurred in the first two weeks of life, the period least affected by the steadily dropping infantile death rate. More than half of these neo-natal deaths were due to prematurity.

General deaths decreased by 25 giving a rate lower than that of last year and one very slightly above the country's rate.

Considering individual causes of death, diseases of the heart and arteries accounted for more than half of the total deaths (58 % as against 51 % in 1955). Fewer deaths were caused by malignant disease, 19 compared with 28. The percentage of total deaths due to this cause was 11.2 as against 14.3 % in 1955. Deaths from cancer of the lung accounted for 2 deaths as compared with 6 the previous year.

The number of deaths due to accidents calls for special comment. Twelve deaths were due to this cause and the types of accidents were as follows :—

Asphyxia due to burying head in soft pillow	—	1 (infant).
Aircraft accidents	.. .. .	3
Motor vehicle accidents	.. .. .	3
Drowning in bath	.. .. .	1 (12 years old).
Burns	.. .. .	1 (6 years old).
Faulty electrical equipment	.. .. .	1 (young adult).
Falls in the home	.. .. .	2 (elderly people).

For the ninth year in succession there were no maternal deaths. Almost 40% of all deaths occurred at ages of 75 and over.

With regard to infectious disease, the general position could be regarded as satisfactory. Due to the fact that 1956 was not an epidemic year for measles the number of notifications was less than one third that of the previous year.

No cases of typhoid fever, para-typhoid fever, dysentery or food poisoning were notified. For the third year in succession no cases of diphtheria occurred. Two cases of poliomyelitis were confirmed, both non-paralytic.

For the first time vaccination against poliomyelitis was undertaken. This was of necessity on a limited scale. 79 children were vaccinated out of a total of 729 registered.

National Assistance Act, 1948

Section 47 of this Act gives local authorities power to deal with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. During the year only one person in this category was brought to my notice and formal action was not necessary as she entered a suitable hostel voluntarily. The shortage of accommodation persists and the waiting list is considerable.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

The section on water calls for little comment. Quality was satisfactory throughout the year although some complaints were received of discolouration. In regard to quantity, consideration might be given to improving the supply at Sadberge where I understand the installation of upstairs bathrooms is impracticable in parts of the village because of insufficient pressure.

Turning to the section on sewerage and sewage disposal, it is apparent that much remains to be done before it can be said that the general position is satisfactory. It is to be hoped that the Ministry will find it possible in the near future to give approval to the schemes which are referred to in the tables on pages 30 and 31 of the report.

A new table has been introduced showing the percentage of earth closets and water closets throughout the district and it is satisfactory that having regard to the rural nature of your district the number of houses with water carriage system is so high. At the same time action might be considered in villages with available sewers regarding the conversion of existing earth closets to the water carriage system except in the case of houses scheduled for action under the Housing Acts.

Dealing next with the section on food premises and inspection of food, the ideal of a hundred per cent inspection of meat is not always easy to achieve necessitating as it does work during public holidays, but this was in fact accomplished. The quality of meat was good.

Little complaint, generally speaking, was to be found in standards of cleanliness and structural conditions of food premises, most of which are of the small family type. Certain premises required structural alterations to meet the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Considerable progress has been made in this respect and the food traders have been very co-operative.

The number of houses scheduled for action in the five year plan was approximately 120.

During 1956 action taken resulted in the making of 16 demolition orders and 6 closing orders and the acceptance of 12 undertakings. There is an inevitable time lag between the making of orders and building for rehousing. Ten families were rehoused from unfit houses into existing houses owned by the Council.

In conclusion I welcome this opportunity of expressing my appreciation to the Council and their Clerk for their continued support and to the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector and other members of my staff for their assistance and willing co-operation throughout the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M. W. Rodgers.

M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS AND STAFF
OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health
M. W. RODGERS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor
J. D. COLLINS, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspector
D. G. WARDE, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Engineering Assistants
J. CUTHBERTSON E. STEELE

Sewage Works Manager
J. BLACK

Building Inspector
A. G. OXBOROUGH

Chief Clerk and General Assistant
F. H. HURWORTH

Clerical Assistant and Pupil
G. V. WORTHY

Pupil Sanitary Inspector
P. J. JEMMESON
(Resigned 31st May, 1956)

Shorthand Typists
MRS. P. LAMBELL MRS. M. H. METCALFE

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District in acres	.. .. .	45,414
Resident population (including forces stationed in the area)	.. .. .	19,310
Total number of houses at 31st December, 1956 (including 135 R.A.F. Married Quarters)	..	5,758
Number of inhabited houses (excluding R.A.F. Married Quarters at 1st April, 1956)	..	5,520
Rateable value at 1st April, 1956	.. .. .	£209,528
Sum represented by a penny rate	.. .. .	£873 0s. 8d.
General Rate (excluding additional items and special rates in certain parishes) made in respect of the financial year ending 31st March, 1957	..	13/4

Social Conditions and Employment

The general level of employment in the district remained steady during 1956. The Aycliffe Trading Estate is situated in the northern part of the district and afforded employment for 3,714 persons of whom 2,550 are males. Industries include chemicals, furniture making, plastic processing, constructional engineering, general engineering, coach body building and paint manufacture. The southern part of the district is mainly agricultural.

Unemployment in the area during the year was negligible.

The Royal Air Force is permanently established in the southern part of the district and 135 married quarters were occupied at the end of the year, an increase of one over the previous year.

In the northern part of the district the new town of Newton Aycliffe continued to expand. The total number of houses occupied at the 31st December, 1956 was 2,537 an increase of 213 over the previous year. The population increased from 7,500 to 8,300 approximately. The three form entry junior and three form entry infants schools are still the only schools in the town and are considerably overcrowded but the Education Authority are proposing to build a further two form entry junior school in 1957 and later a two form entry infants school.

A secondary modern school for 450 children was nearing completion at the end of the year.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births in the district was 457 as against 416 the previous year.

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	232	211	443
Illegitimate	..	..	..	5	9	14
						<hr/> 457 <hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—18.7.

The rate for England and Wales was—15.7.

Still Births				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	5	5	10
Illegitimate	..	..	..	—	—	—
						<hr/> 10 <hr/>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—0.52.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population for England and Wales was 0.37.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births—21.41.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births for England and Wales—23.

The total Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population is 24.18.

Maternal Mortality Nil.

Infantile Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year.

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	6	5	11
Illegitimate ..	..	..	..	—	—	—
						<hr/> 11 <hr/>

Infantile Mortality Rate

Death rate of all infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births—24.07.

Death rate of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births—24.83.

Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births—nil.

Analysis of Causes of Deaths in two age groups under 1 month (neo-natal deaths) and 1 month to 1 year

NEO-NATAL DEATHS

						Male	Female
1st week	..	..	..	..	..	4	4
2nd week	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
						<hr/> 4	<hr/> 5 <hr/>

1 MONTH TO 1 YEAR

						Male	Female
1st month	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
4th month	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
						<hr/> 2	<hr/> — <hr/>

Causes of Death

NEO-NATAL						Male	Female
Prematurity	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
Haemolytic Disease of Newborn	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Atelectesis	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Virus Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Accident	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
						4	5

1 MONTH TO 1 YEAR						Male	Female
Prematurity	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Haemolytic Disease of Newborn	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Atelectesis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Virus Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Accident	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
						2	—

Deaths and Death Rate	Male	Female	Total
	87	82	169
Death rate per 1,000 of the population—11.9.			
Rate for England and Wales—11.7.			

Table Showing Causes of Death

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	—	1
Tuberculosis (Other)	1	—
Syphilitic Disease	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm Lung	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	—	4
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	—	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	8	3
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	1
Diabetes	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	19
Coronary disease, Angina	18	8
Hypertension with heart disease	3	4
Other heart disease	6	15
Other circulatory disease	4	7
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	2	3
Bronchitis	6	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—

Table showing Causes of Death—*continued.*

				Male	Female
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..	..	..	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	..	1	—
Hyperplasia of Prostrate	..	..	..	—	—
Pregnancy, Child Birth and Abortion	..	..	..	—	—
Congenital malformations	..	..	..	1	—
Other defined and ill defined diseases	..	..	..	8	11
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	3	—
All other Accidents	..	..	..	8	1
Suicide	..	..	..	—	1
Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	—	—
All causes			Totals	87	82

Age Groups	Under 1 mth.	1 mth. to 1 year	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40
Deaths	9	2	2	3	2	1	3	2	2	3

Age Groups	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	75-80	80-85	85-90
Deaths	6	2	8	6	12	14	25	34	17	16

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM

The following tables gives the deaths from Malignant Neoplasm in age groups and localisation.

Localisation		36-45 M F	46-55 M F	56-65 M F	66-75 M F	76-85 M F	86 and over M F	Total M F	
Stomach	..	— —	— —	— 1	1 —	— —	— —	1 1	
Lung	..	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	2 —	
Breast	..	— 1	— 2	— —	— 1	— —	— —	— 4	
Oesophagus	..	— —	1 —	— —	2 —	— —	— —	3 —	
Colon	..	— —	— —	1 —	— 1	— —	— 1	1 2	
Bladder	..	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	2 —	
Other Sites	..	— —	— —	1 —	— 1	1 —	— —	2 1	
		— 1	1 2	3 1	4 3	2 —	1 1	11 8	

TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR RECENT YEARS
AS COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES

Estimated Population of Darl'ton R.D.C.	Years	GENERAL DEATH RATE			INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE			LIVE BIRTH RATE		
		Darlington R D C.		England and Wales Rate	Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate	Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate
		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Births	Rate	
9,570	1942	95	10.06	11.6	2	12.9	49	154	16.32	14
9,189	1943	111	12.07	12.1	9	51.84	49	154	16.75	16.5
9,216	1944	111	12.04	11.6	9	45	46	196	21.26	17.6
8,910	1945	122	13.69	11.4	7	45	46	155	17.39	16.1
9,382	1946	114	12.15	11.5	7	46	43	152	16.20	19.1
9,512	1947	115	12.09	12	8	41.88	41	191	20.08	20.5
10,030	1948	95	9.47	10.8	6	34.48	34	174	17.35	17.9
10,270	1949	98	9.5	11.7	7	37.6	32	186	18.1	16.7
10,650	1950	146	13.7	11.6	10	54.35	29.8	184	17.28	15.8
12,040	1951	127	10.55	12.5	8	38.83	29.6	206	17.1	15.5
13,070	1952	117	8.95	11.3	10	47.62	27.6	210	16.07	15.3
14,600	1953	150	10.99	11.4	8	24.02	26.8	333	20.98	15.5
16,230	1954	140	10.6	11.3	10	25.91	25.5	386	21.6	15.2
17,910	1955	194	13.3	11.7	10	24.04	24.9	416	21.14	15
19,310	1956	169	11.9	11.7	11	24.07	23.8	457	18.7	15.7

**Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality
and Case Rates for Infectious Disease, 1956**

	Darlington R.D.C.	England and Wales
	Rate per 1,000 Home population	
BIRTHS :		
Live	18.7	15.7
Still	0.52	0.37
	21.4 (a)	23.0 (a)
DEATHS :		
All causes	11.9	11.7
Whooping Cough	—	0.00
Diphtheria	—	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.10	0.12
Influenza	—	0.06
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	0.0025
Pneumonia	0.26	0.53
NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED) :		
Typhoid	—	0.00
Para-Typhoid Fever	—	0.01
Meningococcal Infection.. .. .	0.05	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1.14	0.74
Whooping Cough	2.9	2.07
Diphtheria	—	0.00
Erysipelas	—	0.1
Small Pox	—	—
Measles	2.74	3.59
Pneumonia	0.05	0.6
Poliomyelitis (including Polio- encephalitis) :		
Paralytic	—	0.04
Non-Paralytic	0.10	0.03
Food Poisoning	—	0.25
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	16.31 (a)
Dysentery	—	1.1
Tuberculosis : Respiratory	0.57	0.71
Other	0.05	0.09
	Rate per 1,000 live births	
Deaths under 1 year of age	24.07	23.8
Neo-natal Mortality	19.69	16.9
Death from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years	—	0.51
	Rate per 1,000 total births (i.e. live and still)	
MATERNAL MORTALITY :		
Maternal causes excluding Abortion	—	0.46
Due to abortion	—	0.10
Total Maternal Mortality	—	0.56

(a) per 1,000 total births

Admissions to Isolation Hospital during 1956

The total number of cases admitted to Isolation Hospital was 14 as against 20 for 1955.

Measles	..	..	..	..	2
Tuberculosis : Respiratory	..	..			3
Meninges and C.N.S.	..				—
Other forms	..	..	..	..	—
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	5
Poliomyelitis : Non Paralytic	..	..			3
Meningitis	..	..	..	..	1

LABORATORY WORK

Bacteriological Examinations

FAECES

Number of Specimens	Food Poisoning Positive	Dysentery Positive	Enteric Positive
22	6	—	—

THROAT SWABS

Number of Specimens	Diphtheria Positive	Vincent's Angina Positive	Haemolytic Streptococci Positive
1	—	—	—

SPUTUM

Number of Specimens	Tuberculosis Positive
3	—

URINE

Number of Specimens	Organisms Positive
1	—

PUS

Number of Specimens	Staphylococcus Aureus Positive
1	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases as notified set out in age groups

	At all ages	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—9	10—14	15—24	25 and over	Age unknown	Total Deaths	Hos- pital	Home
		M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F			
Scarlet Fever ..	22	—	1	1	1	1	7	2	1	—	—	—	2	20
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis :	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Paralytic ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	—
(b) Non-Paralytic ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(Primary & Infl.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid) ..	53	1	2	4	4	5	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	53
Measles ..	56	1	3	3	1	6	9	1	—	1	2	—	—	56
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis :	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Pulmonary ..	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	2	N.A.	—	—
(b) Other ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N.A.	—	—
	149	2	8	8	5	10	27	1	1	6	2	—	6	130

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases after correction set out in age groups

	At all ages	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—9	10—14	15—24	25 and over	Age unknown	Total Deaths	Hos- pital	Home
		M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F			
Scarlet Fever ..	22	—	1	1	1	1	7	2	1	—	—	—	2	20
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infection ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis :	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Paralytic ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-Paralytic ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
(Primary & Infl.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid) ..	53	—	2	4	4	5	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	53
Measles ..	56	1	3	3	1	5	9	1	—	1	2	—	—	56
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	4	—	—	6	13	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis :	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Pulmonary ..	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	N.A.	—	—
(b) Other ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	N.A.	—	—
	148	2	8	6	8	5	27	1	5	6	4		6	130

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of Persons Immunised for which records were received
during the year

Primary Immunisations							
Age at date of Primary Immunisation							
Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
150	65	6	5	5	7	2	240

Reinforcing Injections						
Age at date of Reinforcing Injection						
2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total	
2	2	28	33	1	66	

Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths, 1956

No notifications were received during the year and no deaths occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality during 1956.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	male	female	male	female	male	female	male	female
Under 1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
6—10 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25 ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35 ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45 ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—55 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66 and over	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total ..	6	5	1	—	—	1	1	—

The total number of new cases for 1956 was 11 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary against a total of 40 cases of pulmonary in 1955.

2 deaths occurred during 1956 (1 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary) as against 13 deaths registered the previous year. (11 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary).

The number of deaths registered in 1955 did not give a true picture of the tuberculosis mortality in that year as 9 of the 13 deaths occurred in a hospital for the chronic sick, and hence were allocated to your district. The number of deaths of persons belonging to your district was 4—2 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary in 1955. This figure compares with two (1 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary) in the year under review.

Table showing new cases and Mortality during the past 10 years

Year	New Cases				Mortality			
	Respiratory		Non-Respira'y		Respiratory		Non-Respira'y	
	male	female	male	female	male	female	male	female
1947 ..	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	1
1948 ..	4	3	2	—	—	1	—	—
1949 ..	4	2	—	1	2	2	—	1
1950 ..	1	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
1951 ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
1952 ..	2	3	—	—	—	1	1	—
1953 ..	5	6	—	—	4	1	—	—
1954 ..	7	3	1	3	2	1	—	—
1955 ..	3	7	—	—	10	1	—	2
1956 ..	6	5	1	—	—	1	1	—

Number of Cases on register

Year	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1951	11	10	21	6	5	11
1952	12	16	28	5	5	10
1953	18	21	39	4	8	12
1954	18	26	44	5	8	13
1955	23	33	56	6	6	12
1956	30	38	68	6	7	13

Tuberculosis Mortality Rate : Respiratory 1956 — 0.05.
Non-Respiratory 1956 — 0.05.

Food Poisoning

1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER	3RD QUARTER	4TH QUARTER
—	—	—	—
Total — Nil.			

Outbreaks due to Identified Agents

TOTAL OUTBREAKS	TOTAL CASES
—	—
OUTBREAKS DUE TO	
(a) Chemical Poisons	— (d) C.L. Botulinum. —
(b) Salmonella Organisms.	— (e) Other bacteria. —
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin).—	

Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause

TOTAL OUTBREAKS	TOTAL CASES
—	—
Single Cases	
AGENT IDENTIFIED	UNKNOWN CAUSE
—	—
TOTAL	
—	

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL) IN YOUR AREA

WELFARE SERVICES

(a) **Residential Hostel Accommodation**—The County Council provide hostel accommodation for aged, infirm and handicapped persons, but the accommodation at present is limited. Application for assistance should be made to the County Medical Officer, or to the Assistant County Medical Officer.

(b) **Blind Persons**—a comprehensive service is provided which includes medical examinations, home visiting and teaching, assistance in obtaining suitable employment in workshops or at home, admission to homes for the blind and general social welfare. Any advice needed can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 4411 Extension 48.

(c) **Other Handicapped Persons**—certain welfare services are available for persons who are deaf and dumb, partially sighted, or substantially and permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenital deformity.

Home Nursing

The services of a home nurse are available anywhere in the county. Medical practitioners, the County Health Department or the Assistant County Medical Officer will advise as to the scope of the service provided.

Vaccination and Immunisation

- (a) Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any medical practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service Scheme. Facilities are also available for the vaccination of children at maternity and child welfare centres.
- (b) Immunisation against diphtheria may be carried out on application to maternity and child welfare centres or to any general practitioner operating under the National Health Service Act, free of charge.
- (c) B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis may in certain circumstances be carried out by chest physicians at the chest clinics.
- (d) Vaccination against poliomyelitis is at present available for certain specified age groups.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service

Names and addresses of the midwives available may be obtained from the child welfare centres, medical practitioners or the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 4411, Extension 51.

Domestic Help

Domestic helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies. A charge may be made for this service under certain circumstances according to income scale. Application should be made through the district health visitors or the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 4411, Extension 220.

Health Visitors

The health visitors visit persons in their homes for the purpose of giving advice on the care of young children, to expectant or nursing mothers, and aged or ill persons, and to stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. They provide the link between the home and the County Health Department and the name and address of the health visitor for any area can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham, or from the Assistant County Medical Officer.

Ambulance Service

The County Council provides a free ambulance service for persons in their area for whom ambulance transport is NECESSARY. In an emergency any responsible person may summon an ambulance by telephone by asking to be connected to the nearest ambulance control (no telephone number need be given). As a general rule, however, requests for the use of an ambulance should originate from hospitals, doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists or the police. A doctor in attendance may give a patient or a relative a note certifying in advance the need for ambulance transport and this certificate should be posted or taken to the nearest ambulance control.

Prevention of illness, Care and After-Care

Nursing equipment is provided for sick persons at the request of medical practitioners, district nurses, and hospital almoners. Invalid chairs are also available and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis. A charge is normally made for this service, but in certain circumstances, the charge may be reduced or remitted altogether.

Mental Health Services.

A comprehensive scheme is provided by the County Council. Details and assistance can be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 4411 Extension 237 or to the Duly Authorised Officer, Telephone No. Stockton 66911.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Arrangements exist for mothers, and children under 5 years, to attend Darlington Borough Clinics where this is more convenient. County clinics to serve certain areas of the Rural District are held as shown in the following table. Advice can also be obtained on

application to the County Medical Officer, 42 Old Elvet, Durham,
Telephone No. Durham 4411, Extension 301.

Address of Centre	Sessions	
Sedgefield Surveyor's Office <i>Tel. Sedgefield 244</i>	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Tuesday mornings.
	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Tuesday afternoons
Shildon Friends Meeting House, Byerley Road.	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Wednesdays.
	Child Welfare Centre	Monday and Friday afternoons weekly.
	Ultra Violet Ray Clinic	
Chilton Red Cross Station	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Wednesday mornings.
	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Wednesday afternoons.
Middleton-St.-George The Parochial Hall	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Monday afternoons.
Newton Aycliffe Community Centre	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Thursday mornings.
	Child Welfare Centre	Thursday afternoons weekly

Welfare Foods

National dried milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and vitamin tablets for mothers and babies are distributed from centres in the area as follows :—

Aycliffe Women's Institute	Wednesday mornings, 10-30 a.m. to 12 noon.
Heighington, 26, West Green	Daily when shop is open.
Hurworth Women's Institute	Alternate Tuesday afternoons, 1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.
Middleton-St.-George, NAAFI, R.A.F. Station.	Daily when open.
Middleton-St.-George, Parochial Hall	Alternate Monday afternoons, 1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.

Newton Aycliffe, Community Centre	Thursday afternoons, 1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.
Piercebridge, 10, The Green	Private house, any reasonable hour (not Sundays).
Winston, Mrs. J. Ord, School House	Private house, any reasonable hour (not Sundays).

Additionally, distribution is made at the following three maternity and child welfare centres :—

Sedgefield, Surveyors Office	Alternate Tuesdays all day.
Shildon, Friends Meeting House, Byerley Road	Monday—all day. Alternate Wednesdays all day.
Chilton, Red Cross Station	Alternate Wednesdays all day.

Clinics and Welfare Centres held in the County Borough of Darlington which are attended by Mothers from the Rural District

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres—

Corporation Road Methodist Schoolroom	—Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Thompson Street Methodist Schoolroom, North Road	—Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road—Schoolhouse, Albert Road	—Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street	Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Coniscliffe Road Methodist Schoolroom, Coniscliffe Road	—Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Cockerton Methodist Schoolroom, The Green, Cockerton	—Friday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Haughton-le-Skerne Church Hall	—Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Ante-natal Clinics

Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street.	—Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road—Schoolhouse, Albert Road	—Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Maternity Homes and Hospitals

These are controlled by the Regional Hospital Board but applications for admission should be made to the medical officers at the maternity and child welfare centres shown in the previous table.

Hostels for Unmarried Mothers and Babies

The County Council maintain Smelt House, Howden-le-Wear as a home for unmarried mothers and their babies and accommodation is also provided by the Durham Diocesan Moral Welfare Association.

Unmarried mothers are admitted to the maternity homes and hospitals controlled by the Regional Hospital Board.

Applications for accommodation, or help and advice, should be made to the medical officers at the child welfare centres or the Assistant County Medical Officer.

Residential Nurseries

Residential nurseries are available for certain cases and information regarding these may be obtained from the Children's Officer, Crossgate Moor, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 3311.

Convalescent Home Accommodation

The E.F. Peile Home, Shotley Bridge is available for mothers with babies under six months and for children aged one to five years. Admissions are made on the recommendation of the medical officers at the maternity and child welfare centres.

Admission to other convalescent homes may be arranged in certain circumstances, and advice should be sought from the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham—Telephone No. Durham 4411, extension 217, or the Assistant County Medical Officer.

School Medical Service

Permanent school clinics are held as under and children may attend the most convenient :—

Billingham, Cowpen Lane	Medical Officer attends Tuesday and Friday.
Newton Aycliffe, County Junior Mixed School	Medical Officer attends Tuesday and Friday.
Shildon, Hallgarth House, Main Street	Medical Officer attends Tuesday and Friday.

Services administered by the Regional Hospital Board

Tuberculosis Service—

Clinics are held at Hundens Unit, Hundens Lane, Darlington as follows :—

Darlington Women and Girls	Friday 9-30 a.m.
Darlington Men and Boys	Thursday 9-30 a.m.
County Cases	Monday 9-30 a.m.
Male and Female Cases	Tuesday 2 p.m.

All cases by appointment

Special Treatment Service

Clinics are held at Hundens Unit, Hundens Lane, Darlington as follows :—

Women and Girls	—Wednesday and Friday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Men and Boys	—Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Infectious Diseases

There are 23 beds at Hundens Unit, Hundens Lane, Darlington.

General Hospital Accommodation

There are 303 beds at Darlington Memorial Hospital and Hundens Unit.

Chronic Sick Accommodation

There are 123 chronic sick beds at East Haven (Hospital Section), Yarm Road, Darlington, and 50 beds at Cambridge House Hostel, Galgate, Barnard Castle.

Maternity Accommodation

There are 61 beds at Greenbank Maternity Hospital.

Sanatoria

Nil.

SECTION B.

WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water

1. There is a piped water supply to the major part of the Rural District by mains owned by the following statutory undertakers :—

Tees Valley Water Board.
Durham County Water Board.
Darlington Corporation.
Darlington Rural District Council.

Area of distribution of each of the above will be seen in the appropriate table.

Parts of the parishes of Denton and Sockburn and the hamlet of Low Dinsdale as well as other isolated premises not connected to the public mains are supplied by springs and wells.

At Sadberge and in the parishes of Brafferton, Middleton-St.-George and Neasham water supplied by the Tees Valley Water Board is limited in quantity owing to lack of pressure or size of mains.

(a) Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplied by the Durham County Water Board

Between 1952 and 1954 reference was made in the annual reports to the unsatisfactory quality of water supplied by the Durham County Water Board. The position was reported as satisfactory in the 1955 report and the majority of samples sent for bacteriological examination during 1956 were Class 1 (highly satisfactory) as shown in the following table.

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Aycliffe (old)	—	1	—	—
Newton Aycliffe	3	—	—	—
Aycliffe Trading Est.	5	—	—	1
Heighington	1	—	—	—
Walworth	1	—	—	—

The Durham County Water Board report that of 94 samples taken by them in the Darlington Rural District one was classed as "Unsatisfactory".

(b) Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplied by the Tees Valley Water Board

Water submitted for bacteriological examination from this source was Class 1.

The Tees Valley Water Board report that of 988 samples taken by them of water supplying the Darlington Rural District only 8 were "Unsatisfactory".

(c) **Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplied by Darlington Corporation**

The quality of water in Blackwell during February 1956 was below standard. It returned to normal after flushing of mains was carried out. This sampling was carried out by Darlington Corporation.

(d) **Private water supplies**

Two unsatisfactory (Class 4) samples of water were taken from a private well in an outlying part of Great Burdon in connection with a proposed improvement grant.

Average Hardness in parts per million

	TOTAL	TEMPORARY	PERMANENT
Darlington Corporation	128		
Durham County Water Board :			
Burnhope—Tunstall	50		
Burnhope—			
Mainsforth Tunstall	50/150		
Tees Valley Water Board	120	70	50
Gravitation Supply	50	35	15

No waters in the area are known to be plumbo-solvent.

The proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of the population supplied from the public mains is as follows :—

PARISH	No. of Occupied Houses	Approx. Population	Water Authority Supplying	Direct to the house		By means of stand pipe	Total houses supplied	% of houses supplied	Pop. supplied direct	Pop. supplied by stand pipe
				Open	Meter					
Archdeacon Newton	19	62	Church Commissioners and D'ton Corporation	—	15	—	15	79	48	—
Newton Aycliffe	2,512	8,138	D.C.W.B.	2,511	1	—	2,512	100	8,138	—
Great Aycliffe	235	760	D.C.W.B.	199	14	22	235	100	688	72
Barnpton	26	84	D.R.D.C. T.V.W.B. and D'ton Corporation	11	7	—	18	69	58	—
Bishopton	98	317	T.V.W.B.	82	14	—	96	98	311	—
Blackwell	146	473	Darlington Corporation	126	21	—	147	100	473	—
Brafferton	48	153	D.R.D.C.	35	5	—	40	84	129	—
Great Burdon	21	68	T.V.W.B.	17	3	—	20	95	64	—
Coatham Mundeville	45	145	D.R.D.C. & D.C.W.B.	28	10	—	38	84	123	—
High Coniscliffe	89	289	T.V.W.B.	71	14	—	85	95	275	—
Low Coniscliffe	98	317	T.V.W.B.	86	10	—	96	98	311	—
Denton	19	62	Raby Estates	15	—	—	15	79	49	—
Low Dinsdale	159	515	T.V.W.B.	147	6	—	153	96	496	—
East & West Newbiggin	9	29	T.V.W.B.	—	4	—	4	44	13	—
Great Stainton	25	81	D.C.W.B.	12	11	—	23	92	74	—
Heighington	356	1,153	D.C.W.B.	260	84	—	344	97	1,115	—
Houghton le Side	23	74	D.C.W.B.	3	8	—	11	48	36	—
Hurworth	541	1,752	T.V.W.B.	513	29	—	542	100	1,752	—
Killerby	23	74	T.V.W.B.	18	3	—	21	91	68	—
Little Stainton	16	52	T.V.W.B.	6	9	—	15	94	47	—
*Middleton-St.-George	567	†2,836	T.V.W.B.	529	18	—	547	96	2,772	—
Morton Palms	15	48	T.V.W.B.	5	7	—	12	80	39	—
Neasham	99	320	T.V.W.B.	76	8	—	84	84	272	—
Piercebridge	51	165	T.V.W.B.	45	5	—	50	98	162	—
Sadberge	181	586	T.V.W.B.	160	15	—	175	97	567	—
Sockburn	10	32	T.V.W.B.	6	—	—	6	60	19	—
Summerhouse	29	94	T.V.W.B.	27	3	—	30	100	94	—
Walworth	39	126	D.C.W.B. and Walworth Castle	17	13	—	30	77	97	—
Whesoe	156	505	D.R.D.C. & D'ton Corp.	139	8	—	147	95	469	—
	5,655	19,310		5,144	345	22	5,511	97	18,759	72

* Includes 134 R.A.F. Married Quarters.

† Includes H.M. Forces stationed in district.

Improvements

Great Stainton

During the year a short extension of the water mains at Great Stainton was made to serve outlying farms in the parish. The work was carried out and completed by the Durham County Water Board and the final cost of the scheme was £1,631.

Proposals

Ketton Area

This proposal was fully reported in the last Annual Report and the Council having obtained a 'fringe' order the Ministry approved the scheme towards the end of the year. The estimated cost is £3,710 and this part of Brafferton will now come into the statutory area of Durham County Water Board. Work should be started and it is expected will be completed next year.

Great Burdon Extension

The Council received an amended estimate from the Tees Valley Water Board of £4,895 for this scheme and although repeated requests were made to the Ministry for approval this was not granted because of the restriction on capital expenditure.

Denton

From time to time the attention of Raby Estates has been drawn to the unsatisfactory samples taken from the private supply serving the village of Denton and during the year complaints were received regarding the inadequacy of this supply. The Estate Agent has been approached with the suggestion of taking a mains supply from Walworth (D.C.W.B.) or Summerhouse (T.V.W.B.) but the idea was not accepted and the Council were asked to provide a supply to this hamlet.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Works

These works dealt with a total of 509,924 gallons per day (dry weather flow) made up of 302,703 gallons from the new town of Newton Aycliffe and 200,454 gallons from the Trading Estate and 3,936 from Aycliffe Village. These sewage works are modern, complete with three sedimentation tanks (total capacity 255,936 gallons) four rotary filters (total capacity 4,000 eub. yds.) four humus tanks (total capacity 101,300 gallons), sludge digestion tanks (total capacity 43,200 eub. ft.) and twelve sludge drying beds (1,175 sq. yds.).

There is pumping plant for dealing with the re-circulation of the effluent from the filters, drainage from the sludge beds and sludge from the humus tanks.

In connection with the effluent from the Trading Estate, the sewage works manager continued to visit pre-treatment works on various factories to avoid unsatisfactory effluent being discharged for treatment at the works.

There were 523½ tons of sludge dried as against 657½ tons in 1955 (not a good drying year). The necessity for additional sludge drying beds was apparent and because of this, some difficulty was encountered in running the works.

During the year work continued in connection with the preparation of a scheme of sewage work extensions. This is to be carried out by first forming new sludge drying beds and altering the humus tanks to deal with present flows and later to make further extensions to cover the ultimate growth of the New Town.

Middleton-St.-George Sewage Works

These works deal with over 70,000 gallons per day (dry weather flow) from parts of the parish of Middleton-St.-George and Over Dinsdale. The works are entirely inadequate and the subject of proposals under "Progress report on Sewage Disposal and Sewage Schemes".

Hurworth and Hurworth Place Sewage Works

The sewage works at Hurworth serve a population of approximately 1,130 and are sited at the Yorkshire side of the river. During the year difficulty was experienced in preventing a discharge of the tank liquer to the river owing to the inadequacy of the works. At Hurworth Place dealing with a population of 459 similar difficulties were experienced with the overflow from the tank. A scheme for new sewage works and sewers has been prepared.

Remaining Parishes

The sewage works at Great Stainton, Heighington, Redworth and Sadberge are modern. Redworth works have had improvements and are satisfactory.

Extensions are needed at Sadberge and Heighington.

The sewage works at High Coniscliffe, Low Coniscliffe, Great Burdon, Blackwell and Bishopton require complete renewal.

There are no sewage disposal works at Piercebridge, Summerhouse, Killerby, Merrybent, Walworth, Brafferton and Neasham. Some houses are served by sewers to ditches and watercourses and other houses have private cesspools and filters.

Maintenance of Council Sewage Works

The Council employ a foreman and 5 sanitary labourers to carry out the necessary maintenance, repair and cleansing of the sewerage and sewage disposal works. Some difficulty was experienced in the recruitment of labour with the result that this labour force was below establishment. A sewage works manager and two labourers are attached to the large works at Aycliffe.

The cost of the service for the financial year 1956/57 was £12,449 which represented about a 1/1d. rate. The cost of the service for the previous year was £10,095 representing 1/8d. rate. The cost includes loan charges, on works as well as workmens wages, materials, electricity charges, etc.

PROGRESS REPORT ON SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND SEWERAGE SCHEMES

Name of Scheme and Area to be Served	Sewerage	Date of M of H Enquiry or Investigation	Est. Cost	Date of M. of H. Approval	Date Commenced	Date Completed	Remarks and Progress
Aycliffe Village (Part I)	Sewerage	None	£10,750 (1952)	12/12/50	5/3/53	30/3/54	During the year six premises were connected to the new sewer, grants paid by the Council in respect of these connections amounted to £245 8s. 7d.
Aycliffe Village (Part II)	Sewerage	None	£15,450 (1954)	25/6/54	28/3/55	8/9/56	
Aycliffe Sewage Works Extension (Part I)	Sewage		£9,288 (1956)	31/10/56	—	—	Commenced preparation of plans and quantities. Early start expected next year.
Middleton-St -George	S & S D	Not yet arranged	£63,000 (1954)	—	—	—	Correspondence with Ministry indicated that an investigation by the Ministry Inspector was likely following advertisement and submission of further particulars
Bishopton	S & S D	Not yet arranged	£13,153 (1957)	—	—	—	
Great Burdon	S & S D	Not yet arranged	£5,185 (1957)	—	—	—	
Low Coniscliffe	Sewerage	Not yet arranged	£10,970 (1950)				This scheme was originally part of one to deal with Merrybent and Low Coniscliffe but was amended in 1955 to exclude Merrybent but include CWS Nurseries. In progress of submitting to Ministry details for investigation
Whesoe	Sewerage	5/8/53	£18,750 (1951)	—	—	—	Considered as not urgent enough at present (1953)
Brafferton	S & S D	Not yet arranged	£5,650 (1952)	—	—	—	Not of such urgent character as would justify this being proceeded with at present (Ministry, 1953)
Piercebridge	S & S D	Not yet arranged	£10,034 (1952)	—	—	—	

PROGRESS REPORT ON SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND SEWERAGE SCHEMES—*continued*

PRELIMINARY REPORTS

Name of Scheme and Area to be Served	Sewerage	Date of M. of H. Enquiry or Investigation	Est. Cost	Date of M. of H. Approval	Date Commenced	Date Completed	Remarks and Progress
High Coniscliffe	S & S D	Not yet arranged	£4,853 (1953)	—	—	—	Submitted to Ministry, 1954, urgency to be decided by local investigation
Sadberge	S & S D	Not yet arranged	£3,745 (1953)	—	—	—	
Blackwell	Sewerage	Not yet arranged	£6,687 (1955)	—	—	—	Submitted to Council
Summerhouse	S. & S.D	Not yet arranged	£3,740 (1954)	—	—	—	Awaiting submission to Council
Killerby	S & S D.	Not yet arranged	£4,160 (1954)	—	—	—	Awaiting submission to Council.
Aycliffe Sewage Works Extension (Part II)	S. & S. D.	Not yet arranged	£60,500	—	—	—	Advised by Ministry to submit K. 29 and Eng. 9 (19.11.56). Particulars being prepared, investigation to follow.

Rivers and Streams (River Pollution Prevention)

During the year the Wear and Tees River Board who are responsible for the prevention of pollution of the river and streams in the area continued to work in close co-operation with the department.

Copies of analyses of effluents from the Council's sewage works are sent to us periodically and where possible adjustments are made at the works so that the best possible effluents are obtained.

It was not possible to prevent the discharge of unsatisfactory effluents in certain cases due to defective and obsolete sewage works. The Pollution Officer of the Wear and Tees River Board was kept advised as to the position regarding new schemes for sewerage and sewage disposal and of any improvements carried out to existing works.

Public Scavenging

A weekly collection of house refuse throughout the district is operated as far as possible. Delays occur during public holidays and inclement weather.

Trade refuse from the trading estate has been collected by the North East Trading Estate's own vehicles but towards the end of the year they indicated their decision to terminate the collection and the Council have agreed to provide a service (35/-d. per hour) for all small firms who could not be expected to properly dispose of their refuse.

Refuse disposal is by tipping at tips situated at Brafferton, Middleton-St.-George, Piercebridge, Summerhouse and Heighington. The tip at Middleton-St.-George covers the southern part of the district and will soon require replacement; that at Brafferton takes refuse from the northern part of the district including refuse from the trading estate. The western side of the district is covered by small tips at Piercebridge, Summerhouse and Heighington.

In November a new brick garage was completed at the cost of £2,610 to house six vehicles at Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Works. A brick garage at Middleton-St.-George houses three vehicles. The head room in this building is insufficient and when the vehicles are replaced by larger ones consideration will have to be given to this matter.

Northern Area.

The following shows the parishes that each of the vehicles serves:—

1. Great Stainton, Little Stainton, Great Burdon, Barmpton, Bishopton, Sadberge and part of Aycliffe Village, Heighington and the New Town served by Bedford No. 5 (first registered September, 1952) until June and then by new Fore and Aft Tipper No. 7 (£2,500) operated by driver and two men.
2. Low Coniscliffe, High Coniscliffe, Piercebridge, Summerhouse, Killerby, Denton, Walworth, Houghton-le-Side, Whessoe, Coatham Mundeville, Redworth and Brafferton served by Bedford No. 2 (first registered 1st September,

1948) up to June and then by Bedford No. 5 operated by driver and three men.

3. Part Newton Aycliffe served by Fore and Aft Tipper No. 6 (first registered 1st June, 1956). Operated by driver and three men.

Southern Area

1. Middleton-St.-George, Morton Palms, part of Low Dinsdale served by Bedford No. 3 (first registered 15th December, 1948). Operated by driver and two men.
2. Hurworth, Neasham, part of Low Dinsdale, Sockburn and Blackwell served by Bedford No. 4 (first registered 22nd April, 1949). Operated by driver and three men.

The Council employ a working foreman to supervise both the scavenging and sanitary service with a van for transportation of men, and materials.

The cost of the scavenging service during the financial year ending 31st March, 1957 was £18,440 5s. 9d. which represents a rate of 1/7d. in the £. The cost for the previous year was £15,317 representing a rate of 2/6½d. in the £.

In addition 46 litter baskets situated in various parts of the area were emptied by the refuse collectors.

Cesspool Emptying

In 1956 the Council purchased a 800 gallon cesspool emptying and gully cleansing machine (£2,353) for use in connection with the maintenance of small sewage works, flushing of sewers and cleansing of private cesspools.

Charges were fixed at the rate of 13/-d. per hour (domestic) and 21/-d. per hour (other properties) for its use by the rate payers.

During the year 43 private cesspools were emptied in addition to 14 tanks belonging to the Council. When it was not fully employed on this work it was on loan to the County Council for gully emptying.

Public Conveniences

The Council own public conveniences at Middleton-one-Row, Heighington, Newton Aycliffe (Ward 'A' Shopping Centre) and at Hurworth Place.

Proposals for public conveniences have been received for Aycliffe Village, Middleton-St.-George and one will be required for the town centre at Newton Aycliffe.

Bus Shelters

During the year 16 wooden bus shelters were erected and 5 brick and 2 stone shelters were in course of erection, making a total of 32 bus shelters in the district. This also includes two shelters taken over at Sadberge from the Parish Council and one shelter at Hurworth Place.

W.C. Conversions

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 47

During the year 6 ash closets and 4 privy middens were converted into water closets under Section 47 of the above Act. The owners of the properties concerned received a grant of £12 10s. 0d. for each conversion.

The Council paid £125 in grants during the year, a reduction of £12 10s. 0d. on the previous year when 7 ash closets and 4 privy middens were converted.

The total conversions carried out since the commencement of the voluntary scheme in 1937 number 158 ash closets and 176 privy middens at a total cost to the Council of £3,255 1s. 9d.

SUMMARY OF CLOSETS IN THE AREA

The Table below shows the position with regard to the number of Earth Closets and W.Cs., etc. in the various Parishes—

PARISH	Houses		Earth Closets, etc.			Water Closets			% of W.C's. to total Houses
	Occupied	Total	Total	Village	Outlying	Total	Village	Outlying	
Archdeacon Newton	19	19	6	—	6	13	7	6	68.4
Great Aycliffe	235	250	116	112	4	134	124	10	53.6
Newton Aycliffe	2,512	2,517	5	—	5	2,512	2,507	5	99.9
Barmpton	26	28	17	6	11	11	6	5	39.3
Bishopton	98	101	29	24	5	72	56	16	68.3
Blackwell	146	150	16	1	15	134	106	28	89.3
Brafferton	48	50	24	17	7	26	20	6	52.0
Burdon Great	21	22	11	8	3	11	11	—	50.0
Coatham Mundeville	45	46	17	8	9	29	21	8	63.0
Coniscliffe High	89	91	26	12	14	65	48	17	71.4
Coniscliffe Low	98	101	14	14	—	87	78	9	86.1
Denton	19	20	9	7	2	11	9	2	55.0
Dinsdale Low	159	169	17	13	4	152	137	15	89.9
East and West Newbiggin	9	9	7	—	7	2	—	2	22.2
Great Stainton	25	25	10	7	3	15	12	3	60.0
Heighington	356	365	67	37	30	298	248	50	82.2
(including Redworth).									
Houghton le Side	23	23	19	9	10	4	1	3	17.4
Hurworth	541	557	52	32	20	505	471	34	90.6
Killerby	23	23	8	8	—	15	12	3	65.2
Little Stainton	16	16	6	3	3	10	5	5	56.2
Middleton-St.-George	567	581	91	67	24	490	472	18	85.7
Morton Palms	15	15	10	—	10	5	—	5	33.3
Neasham	99	103	57	43	14	46	19	27	44.6
Piercebridge	51	52	38	33	5	14	8	6	26.9
Sadberge	181	182	37	30	7	145	118	27	79.6
Sockburn	10	13	7	—	7	6	—	6	46.1
Summerhouse	29	30	22	21	1	8	8	—	26.6
Walworth	39	40	13	1	12	27	8	19	67.5
Whessoe	156	160	38	9	29	122	113	9	76.25
	5,655	5,758	789	522	267	4,969	4,625	344	86.26

SANITARY INSPECTION

Summary of inspections, investigations and visits made during the year.

Complaints investigated	35
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Public Health Acts :—

Houses	53
Other Premises	5
Animals improperly kept	1
Dirty and verminous premises	18
Drainage defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Scavenging	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Water Supplies (including samples)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Dangerous Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Living Vans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Total								258

Housing Acts :—

Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
House-let-in-lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Certificate of disrepair	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	134
Applications for re-housing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Council house repairs and maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	114
Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Total								383

Factories Acts :—

Factories with power	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Factories without power	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Total								45

Food & Drugs Acts

Registered Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Restaurant kitchens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Ice Cream Vendors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Butchers Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Milk Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	377

Food & Drugs Acts—continued.

Unsound Food	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Knackers Yard	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bake House	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total							533

Shops Acts :—	69
----------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Infectious Diseases,

Infectious diseases	23
Infectious disease contacts	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Food Poisoning investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Dysentery investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Pathological specimens collected	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Fumigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total							91

Rodent Control	5
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

Building Byelaws

Foundations	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Buildings in course of erection	..	..	..	..	..	..	158
Drains inspected and tested	..	..	..	..	..	..	242
Completed properties	..	..	..	..	..	..	77
Total							509

Miscellaneous

Sundry visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	222
Interviews	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Sewage Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	85
Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Refuse tips	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Diseases of animals	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Biological specimens	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Disposal of dead	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ineffective visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Total							430

SECTION C.

HOUSING

Erection of New Houses

The total number of inhabited houses at the 31st December was 5,655 and the number of houses built during the year under review is shown in the attached table.

New Houses completed during year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total	Total 1955
(a) By Local Authority ..	24	—	24	42
(b) *By any other Housing Authority	213	—	213	439
(c) By private persons ..	3†	39	42	31

*Includes houses built at Newton Aycliffe.

†Under Housing Act, 1952.

Improvement Grants—Housing Act, 1949

	NO. OF SEPARATE HOUSES.
(a) Applications approved by Local Authority during the year	26
(b) Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme	59
Amount paid in grants by the Council during the year	£8,100 10s. 6d.
Total amount paid in grants by the Council since inception of scheme	£11,138 13s. 0d.

Council Houses

The Council had 363 Council Houses up to the 31st December. During the year 24 houses were erected compared with 42 during 1955, making a total of 321 since 1944.

Plans were approved for new Council Houses as follows :—
32 houses at Aycliffe, 4 at Bishopton and 4 at Little Stainton.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

Certificates of Disrepair

During the year no certificates were issued.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

(a) Licensed Sites

There is still only one licensed site for six moveable dwellings in the area at Burtree Filling Station. The site has been run in a satisfactory manner, refuse being regularly removed from the site by the Council's service and there is a mains water supply available.

(b) Moveable Dwelling Licences

The number of licences issued in the area during the year was 2 (for 7 vans).

SUMMARY OF HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

Houses Demolished	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
IN CLEARANCE AREAS			
(Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).			
1. Houses unfit for human habitation	—	—	—
2. Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. . .	—	—	—
3. Houses on land acquired under Section 27, Housing Act, 1936	—	—	—
NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS			
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936.. .. .			
	1	6	1
Unfit Houses Closed	Number		
5. Under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 and Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2), Local Government (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953	6	3	1
6. Under Sections 3 (1) and 3 (2) Housing Act, 1949 ..	—	—	—
7. Parts of buildings closed under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936	1	—	—
Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied		By Owner	By Local Authority
8. After informal action by local authority..		27	—
9. After formal notice under :			
(a) Public Health Acts		—	—
(b) Housing Act, 1936		1	—
10. Under Section 5, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954		—	—
Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)		Number of Houses	Number of Separate Dwellings
11. Retained for temporary accommodation :			
(a) Under Section 2		—	—
(b) Under Section 3		—	—
(c) Under Section 4		—	—
12. Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 6		—	—
Purchase of Houses by Agreement		Number of Houses	Number of Occupants of Houses
13. Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased		2	5

SECTION D.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and Byelaws made thereunder

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

There are four licensed slaughterhouses in the district owned by private persons. During the year 1956, 377 meat inspection visits were made when 1,083 carcasses, with a total weight of approximately 100 tons were inspected.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed .. (if known).	293	6	10	638	136	—
Number inspected ..	293	6	10	638	136	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI :						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	2	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	82	1	—	37	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercul- osis and cysticeri ..	28.39	16.66	.00	5.79	0.73	.00
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :						
Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	11	1	—	—	3	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	3.75	16.66	—	—	2.205	—
CYSTICERCOSIS :						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Carcasses and portions thereof, and organs having a total weight 12 cwt. 2 stone 1 lb. were found to be diseased or otherwise unfit for human consumption and were disposed of accordingly.

Carcases or large parts thereof are dyed green after inspection. Large amounts of meat are sent to an approved Knackers Yard. Small quantities are disposed of by burial.

Milk

There are 178 dairy farmers in the area of whom 75 hold T.T. licenses and 11 of these are licensed as distributors. The total number of distributors of designated milks in the area is 23.

Licences under the Special Designation Regulations were issued as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested	..	7		
Pasteurised	..	7	Total distributors	.. 8
Sterilised	..	1		

The following supplementary licences were issued to distributors from outside the district :—

Tuberculin Tested	..	4		
Pasteurised	..	4	Total distributors	.. 4
Sterilised	..	2		

Food Premises

During the year 33 licensed premises were inspected in the Darlington division and the reports on each sent to the Licensing Justices. They made a further examination of the premises and have since reported that, “except in two cases, the condition and drinking facilities were generally satisfactory, nevertheless in the majority of the houses some improvements could be effected to bring them up to present day standards, and owners are being asked to carry out such improvements prior to the general licensing meeting in 1959. In most cases the alterations and improvements are of a minor character but in others, particularly the two where the standard was very low, the requirements are substantial”. In the two cases referred to the houses were very bad structurally and it is understood that the owners are likely to close these houses or carry out complete re-construction works.

There are only four premises outside the area of this division and it is proposed to forward reports on these to the appropriate justices. Apart from these there are two working men’s clubs and three golf clubs.

A schedule showing the condition of the public houses is set out below :—

Grade A.	Satisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	5
Grade B.	Satisfactory but for minor repairs, additional faults and decorations	..	..	..	..	..	6
Grade C.	Satisfactory but for washing facilities..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Grade D.	Unsatisfactory—presence of several undesirable features in B. or C. and also of sanitary accommodation for public	..	..	..	..	..	6
Grade E.	Very bad..	..	..	..	..	..	3

Other Food Premises

During the year 155 inspections of food premises were made. In one case the condition and method of exposure was unsatisfactory, and the trader was requested to maintain a higher standard.

In another case a serious view was taken of the condition and cleanliness of relatively new premises. Repeated visits were made until the owner had completely redecorated the premises and brought them up to standard.

During the year under review two complaints were received of hair found in bread ; in both cases the bakeries were notified and warnings given.

In response to an enquiry by the Ministry regarding the sale of teething powders containing mercury 53 shops were visited, 18 of which were found to be stocking teething powders. Of these only two had powders containing mercury and as a result 53 old powders were returned to the manufacturers.

With the exception of a large canteen and several small ones on the North East Trading Estate, together with a few multiple stores, the majority of food shops are small family concerns. The general condition of cleanliness remained satisfactory.

In connection with the Food Hygiene regulations, a summary of the various shops and their categories is shown below. The managers of food premises and the small shop-keepers were advised of the regulations and supplied with an explanatory leaflet.

	Cafes	Butchers Shops	Fish Shops	General Dealers and Others
(a) Satisfactory in all respects	3	7	1	38
(b) Satisfactory in all respects except for sanitary accommodation ..	—	—	—	—
(c) Satisfactory in all respects except for washing facilities ..	1	2	—	9
(d) Satisfactory in all respects except for lighting and ventilation ..	—	—	—	—
(e) Satisfactory in all respects except for decoration and minor repairs	1	1	1	1
(f) Unsatisfactory (under more than one of the above headings) ..	2	—	4	4
	7	10	6	52

Educational Activity

As previously stated most food premises are of the small family type and educational activity took the form of visits and discussions on the premises with food handlers.

Registration of Food Premises, Food & Drugs Act, 1955, Section 16

There were no new applications for registration of premises for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. The total number of registered premises is 3.

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the area. Two applications were received for registration of premises for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice-cream. The premises were inspected, found to be suitable and registered. The total number of registered premises is now 30.

Ice Cream

All registered premises have installed recognised thermostatically controlled refrigerators and sell pre-packed ice cream only.

SECTION E.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 AND 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occu's. Pr'secuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authy.	104	39	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	40	40	—	—
Totals	163	85	—	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosec'n' were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	1	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	25	*3	—	1	—
Total ..	26	3	—	2	—

*Means of Escape in Case of Fire (Certificates).

SECTION F.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act and Regulations, 1951

There are no manufacturers in the district but three registered premises where these materials are used.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955—Knackers Yards

There is one licensed knackers yard in the area. Inspections have been made and the present methods of slaughter found to be satisfactory.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

During the year the Council's sewers were test baited and treated as recommended by the Ministry.

3 local government properties, 6 dwelling houses and 5 business premises were found to be infested and successfully treated.

Thirteen complaints were received and dealt with.

Schools

No further information has been received from the County Council regarding water carriage arrangements at Neasham. Plans were received in connection with the sewerage arrangements for the school at Denton, but had to be delayed due to the poor supply of water available.

BYELAWS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT

Building Byelaws

The Council's Building Byelaws were amended on the 7th April, 1952, to allow for the substitution of 7ft. 6 in. ceiling heights for 8 ft. The amendment in the Byelaws came into effect as and from 1st August, 1952.

New Streets	9th May, 1938.
Slaughter Houses	1st June, 1938.
Food Handling	8th May, 1950.

Petroleum (Regulation) Act, 1928—36

Four new and 66 renewals of application for licences to keep petroleum spirit were received during the year.

